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Message Text

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17
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /039 W
---------- 053458
R 090231Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7590
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHAD
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT JQII
AMEMBASSY ONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTA
AMCONSU MADRAS

UNCAS NEW DELHI 11582

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, IN
SUBJECT: GOI INCREASES CONTROL OF LABOR MIGRATION

1. GOI LAST MONTH ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL TIGHTEN ITS CONTROLS OF THE MIGRATION OF INDIAN LABOR, PARTICULARLY TO THE GULF STATES.PREVIOUSLY LABOR CONTRACTORS HAD FEW DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING PASSPORTS AND COMPLETING OTHER FORMALITIES FOR RECRUITED WORKERS, SKILLED AND UNSKILLED.
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UNDER THE NEA POLICY, LABOR CONTRACTORS AND PRIVATE AND

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PUBLICSECTOR FIRMS WITH CONRACTSFOR PROJECTS ABROAD WILL

BE LICENSED TO RECRUITINDIAN LABOR. ALL PASSPORTS FOR SUCH MIGRANTLABOR WILL BE ISSUED ONLY IN NEW DELHI AND FOR THE DURATION OF THE WORKERS'S CONTRACT AND FOR THE SPECIFIC COUNTRY WHERE HE WILL BE EMPLOYED. REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICES THROUGHOUT INDIA ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO ISSUE SUCH PASSPORTS ON THEIR OWN AUTHORITY. UNDERTAKINGS WILL BE REQUIRED OF THE EMPLOYING FIRM THAT THE WORKERS WILL BE RETURNED TO INDIA.

2. THE GOI REPORTEDLY DECIDED ON THE NEW MEASURES BECAUSE OF INCREASING INSTANCES OF WORKERS HAVING BEEN DEFRAUDED AND PROVIDED "INHOSPITABLE" LIVING CONDITIONS ABROAD. THE NEW EMIGRATION POLICY MAY BE FORMALIZED BY AMENDING THE 1922 INDIAN EMIGRATION ACT IN THE UPCOMING PARLIAMENTARY SESSION.

3. COMMENT: THE CENTRALIZATION OF THE PASSPORT ISSUING AUTHORITY AND THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS CAN BE EXPECTED AT LEAST TO DELAY THE DEPARTURE OF INDIANS DESIROUS OF WORKING ABROAD. HE WILL BE FOLLOWING THIS QUESTION CLOSELY TO DETERMINE IF THE NEW POLICY INCLUDES RESRICTIONS ON THE EMMIGRATIONOF SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF LABOR.SAXBE

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